


DAREDEVIL

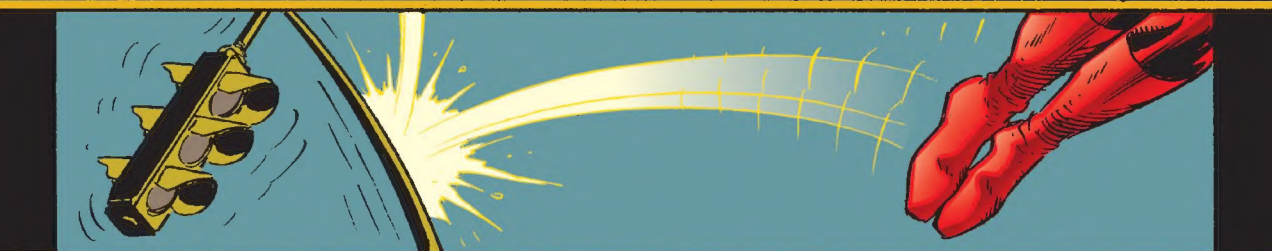
THE MAN WITHOUT FEAR





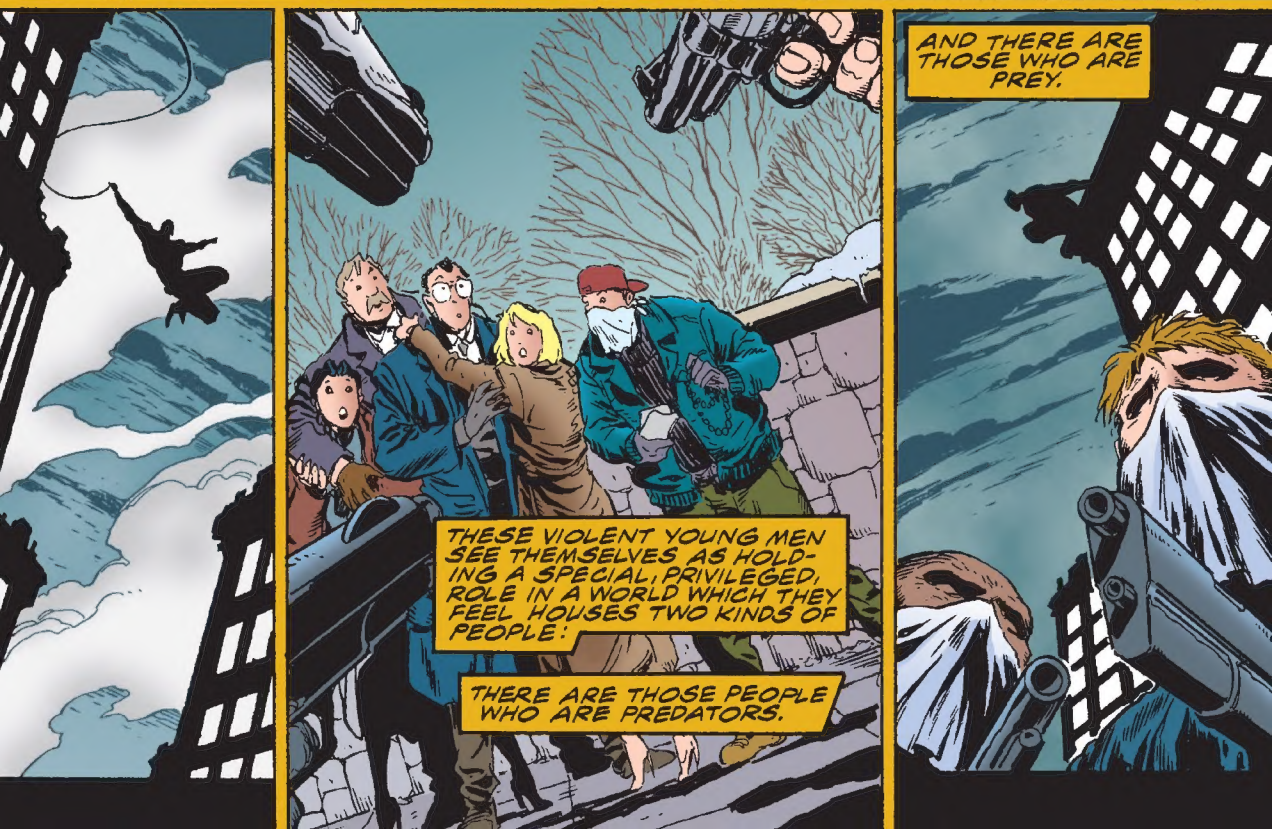
AS WINTER GIVES WAY TO SPRING, MORE AND MORE PEOPLE ARE VENTURING OUT-- EAGER FOR A NIGHT ON THE TOWN AFTER BEING COOPED UP FOR LONG WEEKS OF FREEZING TEMPERATURES.

THEY THINK NOTHING OF THE MONEY THEY SPEND AS THEY CELEBRATE THE ARRIVAL OF WARMER MONTHS.



THERE ARE OTHERS OUT TONIGHT, WHO, IN THEIR OWN WAY OF CELEBRATING THE DEPARTURE OF COLD, LEAN MONTHS, THINK NOTHING OF TAKING THIS MONEY FROM THEM.

FORCIBLY, IF NECESSARY.



AND THERE ARE THOSE WHO ARE PREY.

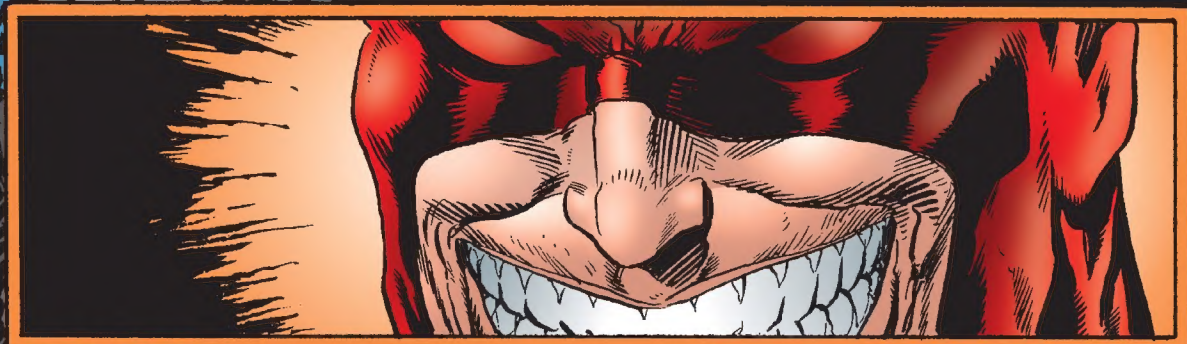
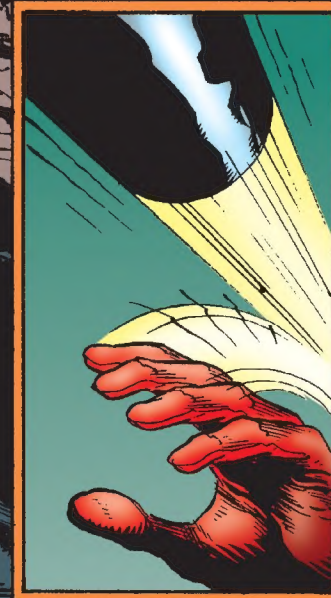
THESE VIOLENT YOUNG MEN SEE THEMSELVES AS HOLDING A SPECIAL, PRIVILEGED, ROLE IN A WORLD WHICH THEY FEEL HOUSES TWO KINDS OF PEOPLE:

THERE ARE THOSE PEOPLE WHO ARE PREDATORS.

STAN LEE PRESENTS:

HELPING HANDS

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PICTURES: SHAWN McMANUS
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THEY WATCH AS DAREDEVIL SWIFTLY DISARMS THEIR ATTACKERS AND BRINGS THEM TO SURRENDER. IT IS CLEAR THAT THEY WATCH, NOT WITH ADMIRATION, BUT WITH FEAR.


DAREDEVIL HAS A ROUGH REPUTATION. HE IS STILL CALLED A VIGILANTE BY MANY MORE THAN CALL HIM HERO.

HE IS BELIEVED BY MOST TO BE A MAN OF CLENCHED FISTS.

I BELIEVE THESE BELONG TO YOU.

PLEASE, TAKE A CAB HOME. THERE'S A LOT MORE WHERE THIS GROUP CAME FROM TONIGHT, AND I'VE JUST STARTED.

TONIGHT, HE WILL BE REMEMBERED FOR OFFERING AN OPEN HAND.




HE HAS WORN THIS
COSTUME SO MANY
TIMES IN THE PAST.

PATROLLED THE CITY
IN AN EFFORT TO
COMBAT CRIME.

BUT NEVER, HAS HE
FELT THE WAY HE
DOES TONIGHT.

WEIGHTLESS.
INVINCIBLE.
ALIVE.

ALMOST GIDDY WITH THE EXCITE-
MENT THAT CAME WITH THE FIRST
TIME HE WENT OUT INTO THE NIGHT
AS DAREDEVIL, YEARS AGO, BUT
WITHOUT ANY OF THE FEAR.



IN ALL THOSE TIMES
BEFORE, HE WAS IN
CONFLICT WITH HIMSELF.

MATT MURDOCK COULDN'T
MAKE PEACE BETWEEN THE
SON WHO ONLY WANTED TO
PLEASE HIS FATHER, FOR-
SAKING FISTS AND PHYSICAL
ACTIVITY IN PURSUIT OF MORE
INTELLECTUAL GOALS--

--AND THE BOY WHO LONGED TO
PROVE THAT HE WAS AGILE
AND STRONG AS THE OTHER
BOYS, BUT ONLY DARED DO
IT HIDDEN BEHIND A MASK.

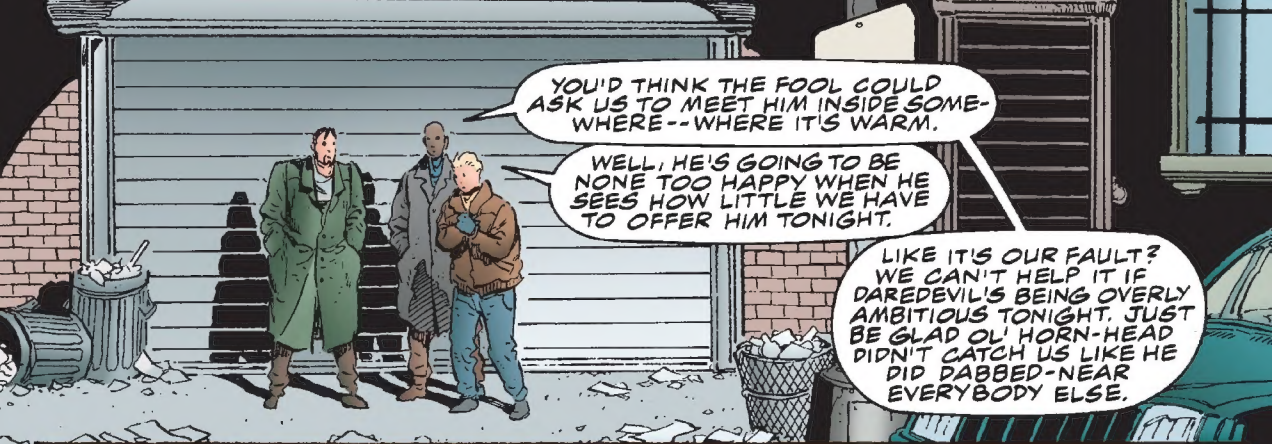
HE HAS FINALLY MANAGED TO
BALANCE ALL THE VARIOUS
ASPECTS OF HIMSELF, THE MANY
SHADES OF MATT MURDOCK, AND
THE MANY SHADES OF DAREDEVIL.

HE KNOWS WHO HE IS.

TO THE WORLD MATT
MURDOCK IS DEAD.

TONIGHT HE IS ONLY
DAREDEVIL. AND HE
IS ALIVE.

AND HE IS
LETTING EVERYONE
KNOW IT.



YOU'D THINK THE FOOL COULD ASK US TO MEET HIM INSIDE SOMEWHERE--WHERE IT'S WARM.

WELL, HE'S GOING TO BE NONE TOO HAPPY WHEN HE SEES HOW LITTLE WE HAVE TO OFFER HIM TONIGHT.

LIKE IT'S OUR FAULT? WE CAN'T HELP IT IF DAREDEVIL'S BEING OVERLY AMBITIOUS TONIGHT. JUST BE GLAD OL' HORN-HEAD DIDN'T CATCH US LIKE HE DID DABBED-NEAR EVERYBODY ELSE.

MAN, YOU TWO ARE IGNORANT. DAREDEVIL'S NOT OUR PROBLEM. THE VICE AGENT IS OUR PROBLEM.

DAREDEVIL'S NOT MAKING US GIVE HIM HALF OUR EARNINGS--SO WE HAVE TO GO OUT AND DO TWICE AS MANY JOBS JUST SO'S WE CAN EAT.



YOU'RE FORGETTING SOMETHING, TURK.

YOU DIDN'T LET ME FINISH WHAT I WAS SAYING. YOU SEE, I WAS MERELY TESTING THE LOYALTY OF MY COHORTS HERE.

TURK...

YOU SEE, I CAN'T VERY WELL BE OUT THERE DOING YOUR WORK, IF I FEEL THAT THESE TWO AREN'T GOING TO BE PULLING THEIR WEIGHT SO'S THAT I...

PLEASE DON'T KILL ME.

TURK...





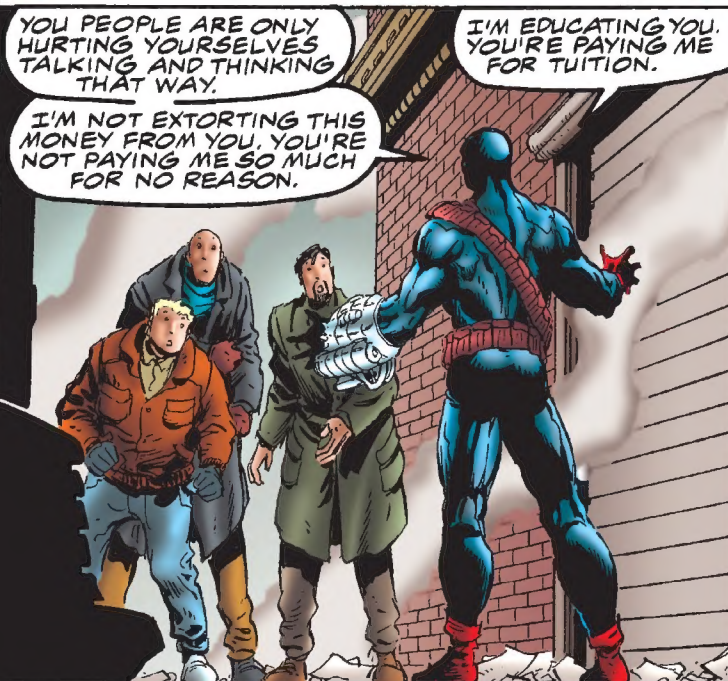
TURK, YOU'RE SO FULL OF IT, YOUR EYES ARE BROWN.

NO, THEY'RE NATURALLY THAT COLOR.

DON'T INTERRUPT ME.

HOW LONG HAVE YOU BOTTOM FEEDERS BEEN DOING CRIMES? FIVE YEARS? TEN?

AND WHAT DO YOU HAVE TO SHOW FOR IT? LOOK AT YOU. YOU'RE NO BETTER OFF THAN WHEN YOU STARTED, PULLING SCAMS AND STEALING TVs.



YOU PEOPLE ARE ONLY HURTING YOURSELVES TALKING AND THINKING THAT WAY.

I'M NOT EXTORTING THIS MONEY FROM YOU, YOU'RE NOT PAYING ME SO MUCH FOR NO REASON.

I'M EDUCATING YOU. YOU'RE PAYING ME FOR TUITION.



I'M YOUR KEY TO A BETTER LIFE. YOU KEEP ME HAPPY BY BEING PROLIFIC, AND DOING BIGGER JOBS. THEN WHEN SOMEBODY LIKE ELECTRO OR THE OWL IS LOOKING FOR A GANG AND ASKS ME WHO I'D RECOMMEND, YOU'LL ALL MOVE UP TO BIGGER AND BETTER THINGS. WITHOUT ME, YOU HAVE NO FUTURE.

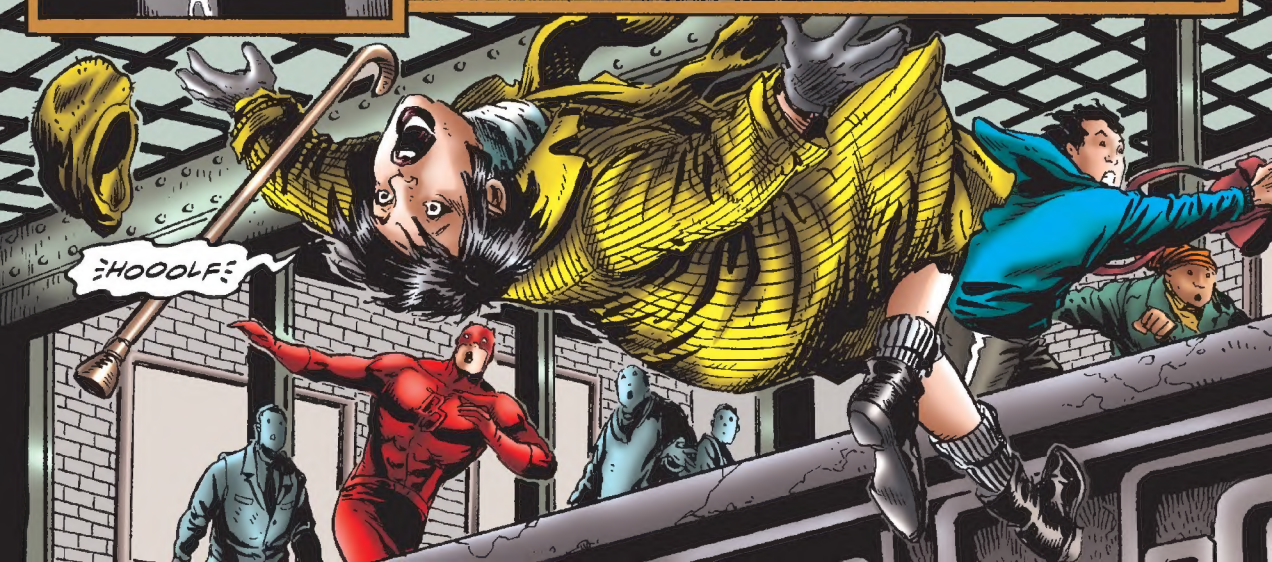
TONIGHT'S LESSON IS GOING TO COST YOU ALL OF YOUR EARNINGS. IT'S BAD FORM FOR YOU TO BE QUESTIONING A HELPING HAND.



YOU BOYS HAVE A NICE NIGHT. I'LL SEE YOU IN A FEW HOURS FOR YOUR NEXT PAYMENT.



THAT DOES IT. I SAY WE POOL WHAT LITTLE MONEY WE HAVE SAVED UP, BUY US SOME HARDWARE, AND SMOKE HIM.



08111111

HE HEARS THE SCREECH OF WHEELS AGAINST THE TRACKS, FEELS THE DISPLACEMENT OF THE AIR AROUND HIM. IF HE DOESN'T GET HER BEFORE THAT TRAIN GETS CLOSER, HIS HEIGHTENED SENSE OF HEARING WILL BE USELESS; OVERWHELMED BY THE ROAR OF THE TRAIN.

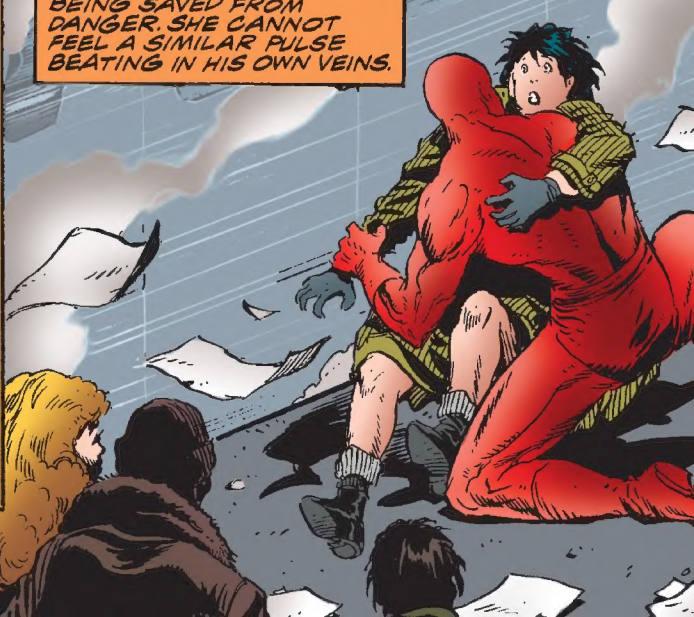



RRRRRRMMMM



THE ROAR OF THE TRAIN IS OVERWHELMING. THE STALE, WARM AIR BEING PUSHED AHEAD OF IT CARRIES AWAY THE WOMAN'S SCENT. HE CAN ONLY HOPE HE'S STANDING IN THE RIGHT PLACE, THAT THE DISTURBANCE IN THE AIR FLOW IN FRONT OF HIM IS HER SHAPE ON THE TRACKS.

EVEN THROUGH HIS GLOVED FINGERTIPS, HE CAN FEEL HER PULSE BEATING WITH FEAR AND EXCITEMENT-- THE EXHILARATION OF BEING SAVED FROM DANGER. SHE CANNOT FEEL A SIMILAR PULSE BEATING IN HIS OWN VEINS.



A large crowd of diverse people is gathered around Red Hood. In the background, a man in a brown coat and hat has his arms raised in a cheer. A woman in a brown coat and a fur hat is laughing heartily. To the left, a man in a green beanie and blue jacket is smiling broadly. In the foreground, a woman with dark hair is being embraced by Red Hood. An older man with a grey beard and a fedora is looking up at Red Hood with a smile. The scene is set outdoors, possibly on a train platform, with a brick wall visible in the background.


ABOVE THE RUMBLE
AND SQUEAL OF THE
TRAIN COMING TO A
STOP, HE HEARS THEIR
CHEERS AND PRAISES
--CAN PRACTICALLY
FEEL THE JOY AND
ADMIRATION RISING IN
THEIR HEARTS.



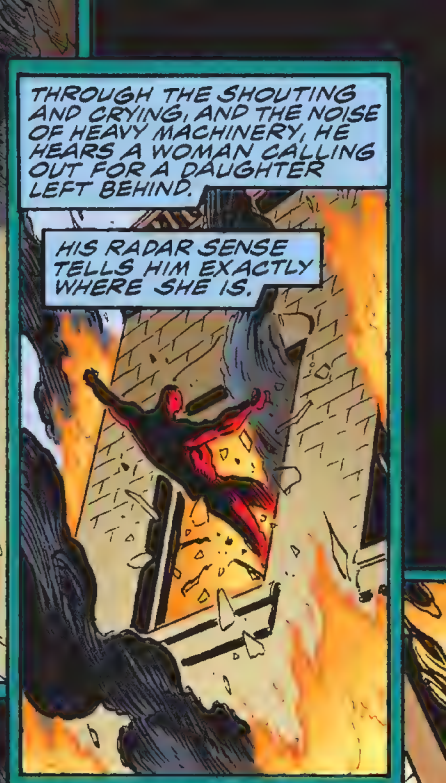
HE CAN'T HELP BUT SMILE,
DESPITE HIMSELF--LITTLE REAL-
IZING THAT THAT SUBCONSCIOUS
SLIP WILL HELP HUMANIZE HIM
EVEN MORE IN THEIR EYES.

HE HOLDS THEIR FEELINGS OF
GRATITUDE WITHIN HIM, TAKING
THEIR SPARK BACK OUT INTO
THE NIGHT...

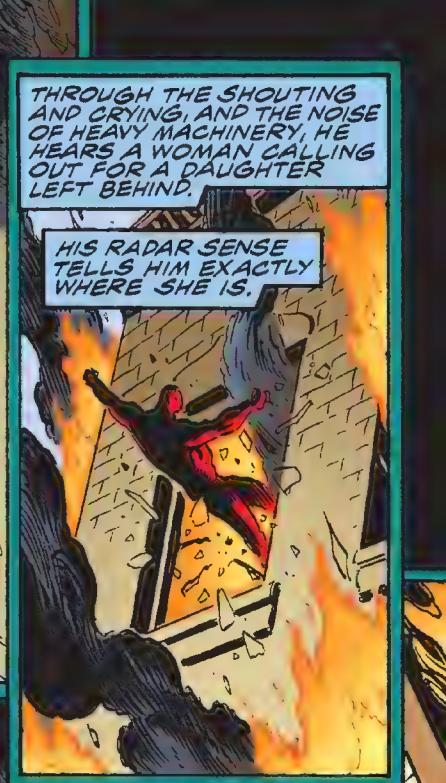


A large panel showing Daredevil in his red suit flying through a city street at night. The street is filled with cars and people, and a large building in the background is on fire. Daredevil is in a dynamic pose, reaching forward with his right hand.

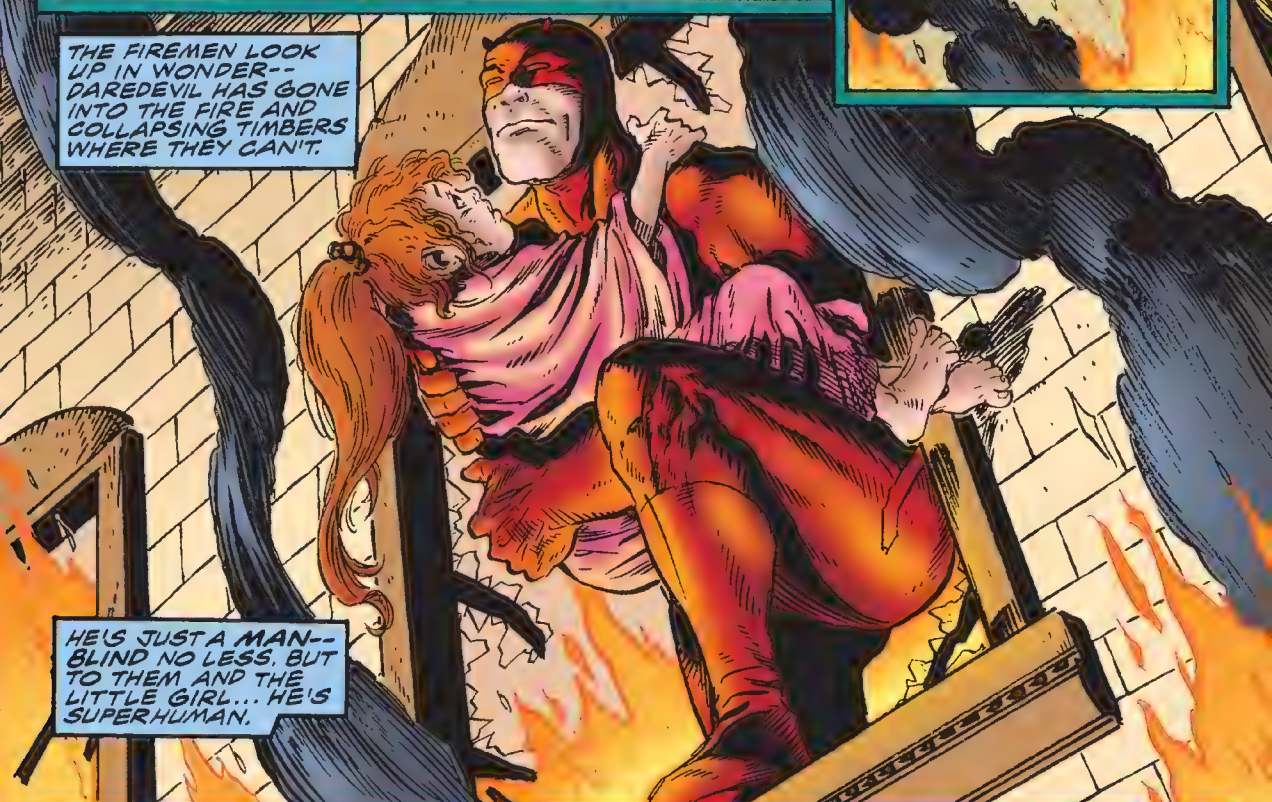
...WHERE HE CAN FAN
IT INTO A FLAME.

A smaller panel showing Daredevil flying through a burning city street. The street is filled with cars and people, and a large building in the background is on fire. Daredevil is in a dynamic pose, reaching forward with his right hand.

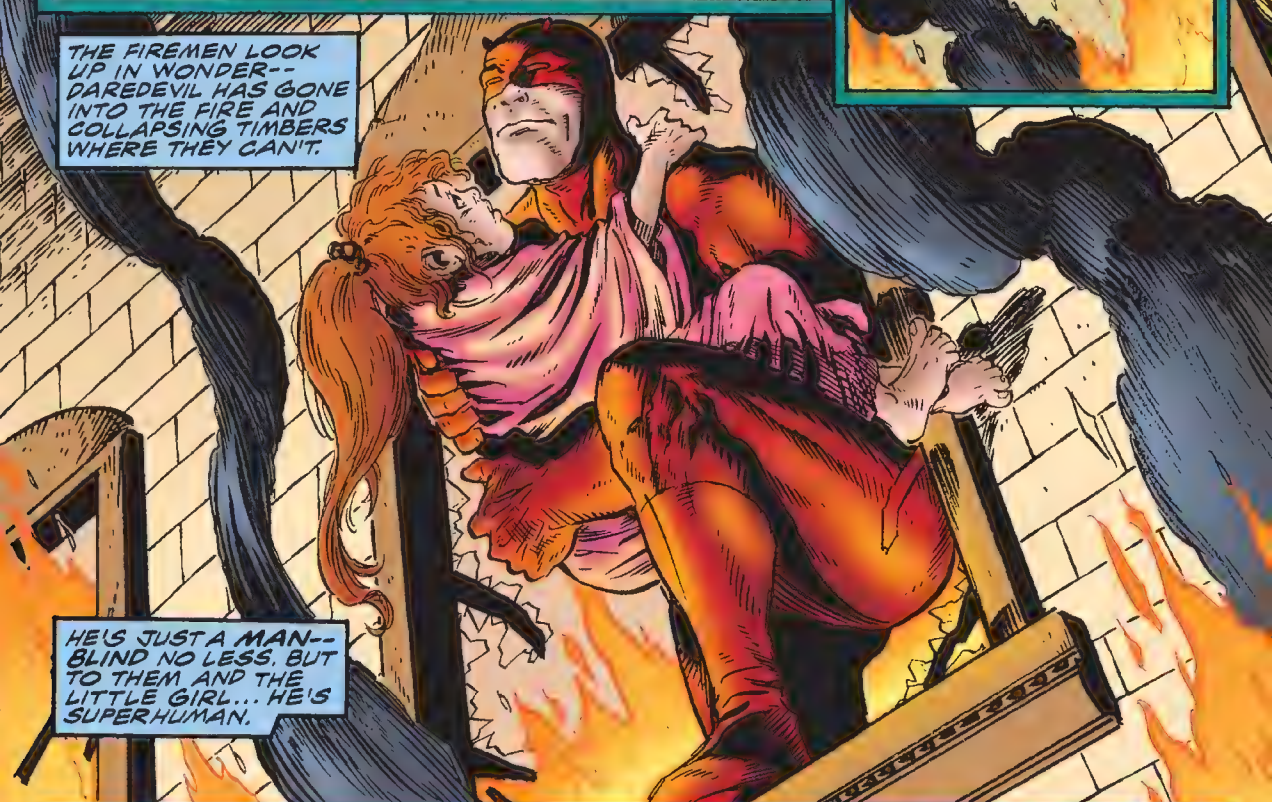
THROUGH THE SHOUTING
AND CRYING, AND THE NOISE
OF HEAVY MACHINERY, HE
HEARS A WOMAN CALLING
OUT FOR A DAUGHTER
LEFT BEHIND.

A smaller panel showing Daredevil flying through a burning city street. The street is filled with cars and people, and a large building in the background is on fire. Daredevil is in a dynamic pose, reaching forward with his right hand.

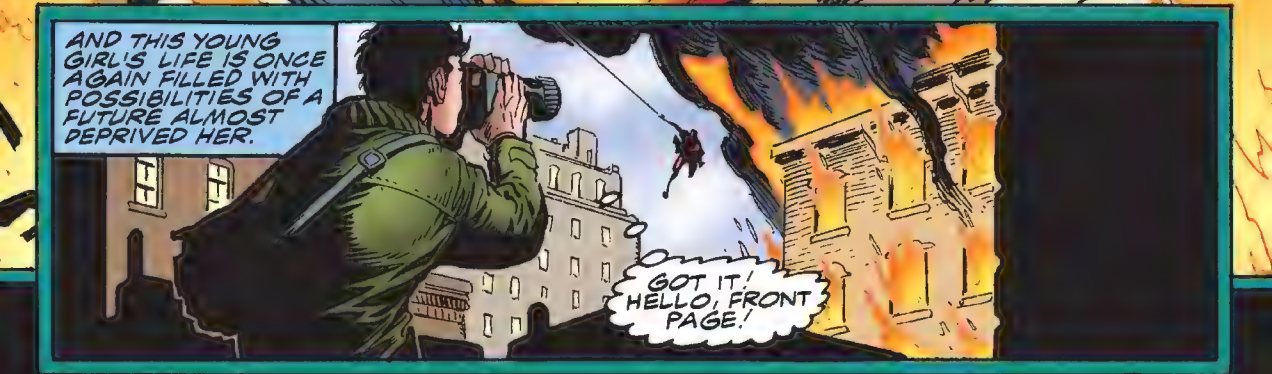
HIS RADAR SENSE
TELLS HIM EXACTLY
WHERE SHE IS.

A large panel showing Daredevil and a woman with long red hair on a rooftop. Daredevil is looking up at the sky, and the woman is looking at him. The rooftop is surrounded by flames and smoke.

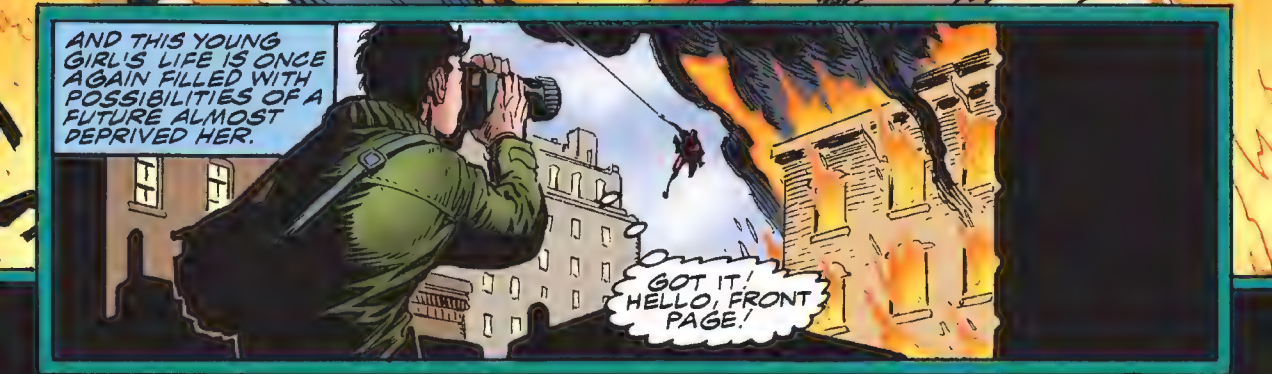
THE FIREMEN LOOK
UP IN WONDER--
DAREDEVIL HAS GONE
INTO THE FIRE AND
COLLAPSING TIMBERS
WHERE THEY CAN'T.

A large panel showing Daredevil and a woman with long red hair on a rooftop. Daredevil is looking up at the sky, and the woman is looking at him. The rooftop is surrounded by flames and smoke.

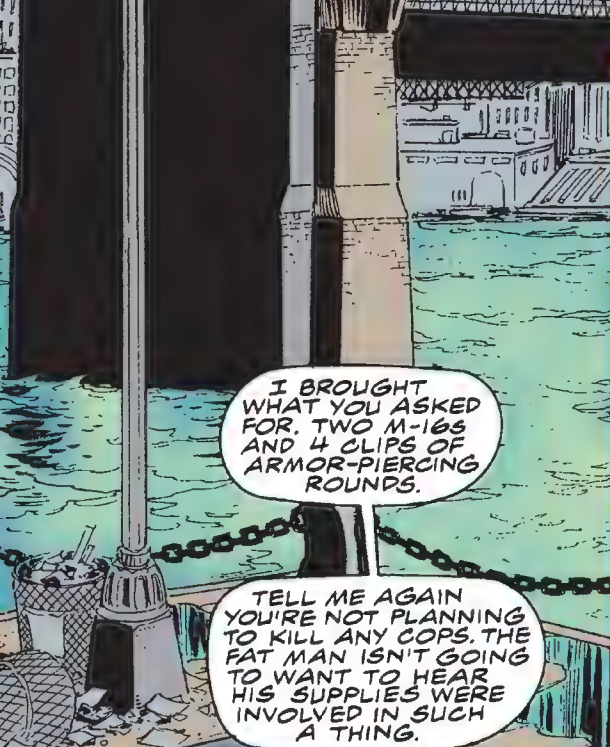
HE'S JUST A MAN--
BLIND NO LESS, BUT
TO THEM AND THE
LITTLE GIRL... HE'S
SUPERHUMAN.

A panel showing a man in a green jacket and a camera around his neck, looking through binoculars. In the background, Daredevil is seen flying through the air above a burning city street.

AND THIS YOUNG
GIRL'S LIFE IS ONCE
AGAIN FILLED WITH
POSSIBILITIES OF A
FUTURE ALMOST
DEPRIVED HER.

A panel showing a man in a green jacket and a camera around his neck, looking through binoculars. In the background, Daredevil is seen flying through the air above a burning city street.

GOT IT!
HELLO, FRONT
PAGE!



I BROUGHT WHAT YOU ASKED FOR. TWO M-16S AND 4 CLIPS OF ARMOR-PIERCING ROUNDS.

TELL ME AGAIN YOU'RE NOT PLANNING TO KILL ANY COPS. THE FAT MAN ISN'T GOING TO WANT TO HEAR HIS SUPPLIES WERE INVOLVED IN SUCH A THING.



NO, WE AIN'T GOING TO USE 'EM ON ANY COPS.



ARE YOU CHICKENING OUT ON ME, DRAKE? STANLEY?



GOOD. I TAKE IT THAT ONE OF YOU MONKEYS HAS MY MONEY.

YEAH. GIVE 'EM THE CASH, STANLEY.

I DON'T KNOW, TURK. ARE YOU SURE THIS IS A GOOD IDEA?

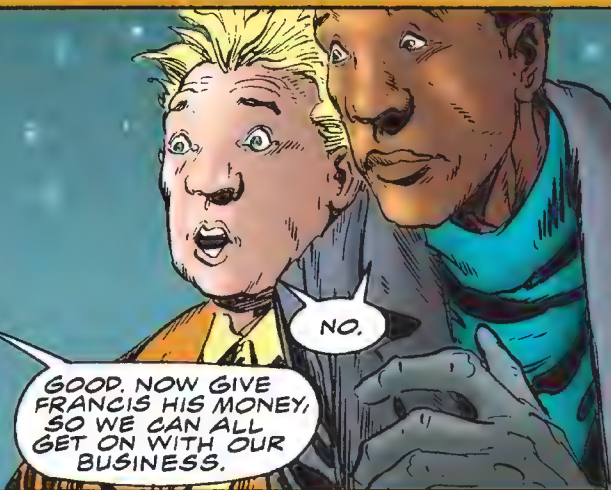
I MEAN, WHAT IF HE'S WATCHING US?



SO WHAT IF HE'S WATCHING? NOW WE HAVE WHAT WE NEED TO BLOW HIM AWAY!

HOW DO WE EVEN KNOW GUNS'LL WORK AGAINST HIM? HE'S GOTTA HAVE SUPERPOWERS, DOESN'T HE?

I MEAN, HE IS WEARING A COSTUME.



NO.

GOOD. NOW GIVE FRANCIS HIS MONEY, SO WE CAN ALL GET ON WITH OUR BUSINESS.



"WE NEED TO TALK."

YOU DID THAT TO MAKE ME SICK, DIDN'T YOU?

WHAT'S THAT?

SWINGING US UP HERE ON THAT ROPE, WITH ALL THOSE ACROBATICS, WHEN YOU COULD HAVE JUST FLOWN US UP HERE.

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT, MAN? I NEVER SAID ANY SUCH THING!

THEN WHAT WAS ALL THAT CHIT-CHAT ABOUT SHOOTING SOME SUPER HERO IN A COSTUME?

I'M UPSET, TURK. I OVER-HEARD YOU TALKING ABOUT KILLING ME.

IT WASN'T YOU, DAREDEVIL. I SWEAR IT WEREN'T. WE WERE TALKING ABOUT SOME OTHER SUPER POWERED MAN IN A COSTUME.

WE WERE TALKING ABOUT...

THE VICE AGENT.

THIRTY-SIX DOLLARS
OUT OF YOUR OWN WALLETS?
THAT'S ALL YOU HAVE TO
OFFER ME? DON'T YOU
PEOPLE UNDERSTAND I'M
TRYING TO HELP YOU?

NO. THEY WERE
LUCKY. YOU MOST
DECIDEDLY ARE
NOT.

DAREDEVIL
IS YOUR
PROBLEM.
NOT MINE.

IT ISN'T OUR
FAULT. WE WERE
DOING WELL. REAL
WELL. THEN DARE-
DEVIL CAME ALONG
AND BUSTED US.

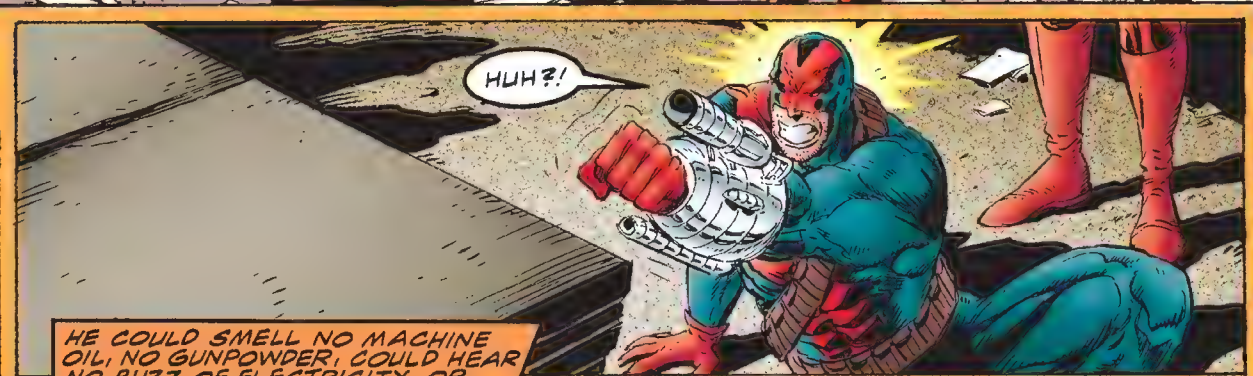
WE'RE LUCKY
WE EVEN GOT AWAY.
THE COPS TOOK
THE OTHERS.

I BEG TO
DIFFER.

YOU!

ME.

KLIDY!



HE COULD SMELL NO MACHINE OIL, NO GUNPOWDER, COULD HEAR NO BUZZ OF ELECTRICITY, OR MOVING PARTS, THAT'S HOW HE KNEW IT WAS A...



WHICH IS ALL YOU ARE AS WELL... A FAKE! A BULLY HIDING BEHIND A MASK.





DAREDEVIL HASN'T STOPPED CRIME IN THE CITY, BUT HE KNOWS HE'S SLOWED IT DOWN.



PETTY CRIMINAL ACTIVITIES HAD INCREASED DUE TO THE VICE AGENT'S EXTORTION SCHEME.

ALL THAT CRIME, ALL THAT FEAR, DUE TO A WEAK COWARD; A BULLY IN A MASK.



SO THE STORIES ARE TRUE, DAREDEVIL'S BACK. TIME FOR ME TO TAKE ACTION.



FOR A WHILE, HE WASN'T MUCH DIFFERENT. A COWARD, HIDING FROM HIMSELF, HIDING BEHIND A MASK. BULLYING LAWBREAKERS WITH HIS FISTS.



TONIGHT HE'S SHOWN THE WORLD THAT DAREDEVIL DOESN'T HAVE TO BE A BULLY. HE'S SHOWN THEM THAT HE CAN SOLVE PROBLEMS WITH AN OPEN HAND, HELD OUT AS AN OFFER OF GOOD WILL, AND NOT DELIVERED AS A SLAP.

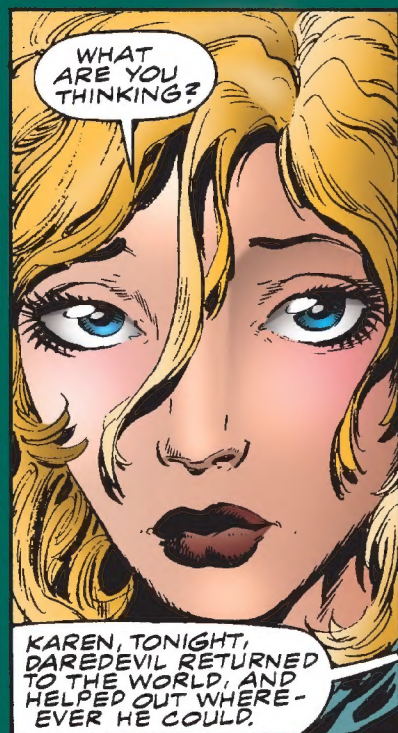


HE'S OFFERED THE CITY HIS HAND AS A FRIEND, AND IT APPEARS THEY HAVE TAKEN IT.



THERE'S STILL ANOTHER WAY THAT HE CAN HELP MAKE THE CITY A BETTER PLACE.

MATT?
I'VE MISSED YOU.



WHAT ARE YOU THINKING?

KAREN, TONIGHT, DAREDEVIL RETURNED TO THE WORLD, AND HELPED OUT WHERE-
EVER HE COULD.



AND
WHAT ABOUT
TOMORROW,
MATT?

TOMORROW,
MATT MURDOCK
WILL DO THE
SAME.

BONUS PINUPS!



PENCILS: J.H. WILLIAMS III INKS: MICK GRAY COLORS: KEVIN SOMERS



PENCILS: JAMES FRY III INKS: HARRY CANDELARIO COLORS: KEVIN SOMERS



C. Nord
12/95

PENCILS: CARY NORD INKS: JOHN DELL III COLORS: KEVIN SOMERS